

# ***Mayor Shaunna O'Connell***



***City of Taunton***

***FY2022 Preliminary Budget Presentation***

***June 1, 2021***



# ***A Year of Challenges***

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- Public Health Emergency Declared
- State mandated stay-at-home order
- Schools convert to remote learning
- Businesses ordered closed
- Unemployment hits record highs
- State budget delayed
- Revenues down
- Taunton does not receive increase in state UGGA funding (lottery money)

## **COSTS**



City Hall operating expenses



Increase trash disposal costs



Pension Fund



Medicare



Risk management



Health Insurance



# ***Taunton Meets the Challenges***

## **Mitigating the Financial Impact to the Community and Taxpayers**

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- ✓ Maintained city government operations during “stay at home” advisory
- ✓ Created remote work capabilities and procedures for city employees
- ✓ Implemented spending freeze
- ✓ Implemented hiring freeze for non-essential employees
- ✓ Limited discretionary spending
- ✓ Extended local tax due dates to help families financially impacted by COVID
- ✓ Created City of Taunton COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, raising over \$125,000 for families and individuals impacted by the pandemic
- ✓ Established City of Taunton Small Business Sustainability Fund to help local businesses
- ✓ Established the Small Business Recovery Grant Program to help local businesses
- ✓ Assisted businesses in complying with costly regulations
- ✓ Created outdoor dining ordinance
- ✓ Provided \$60,000 in funding to YMCA and Boys & Girls Club for Learning Pods



# ***Taunton Meets the Challenges***

## **Protecting our Community**

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- ✓ **Held vaccine clinics serving +900 Taunton senior citizens**
- ✓ **Opened Regional Vaccine Clinic in Taunton**
- ✓ **Mobile Vaccine clinics**
- ✓ Created COVID-19 Emergency Task Force
- ✓ Daily Video Updates to keep community informed
- ✓ Created COVID-19 Community Hotline, email, and dedicated resource web page
- ✓ Senior Outreach Program
- ✓ Provided free COVID-19 testing
- ✓ Held COVID-19 Taunton Telephone Town Hall
- ✓ Sent out citywide educational mailings
- ✓ Sent out citywide informational phone messages
- ✓ Created Re-Opening Safety Plan for city government







# ***Taunton Meets the Challenges***

## **Deploying Resources**

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### **CARES ACT** **Funding**

ALLOCATED:	\$5,051,657.00	EXPENDED:	\$1,916,725.10
RECEIVED:	\$3,939,394.00	ENCUMBERED:	\$1,240,242.66
AVAILABLE:	\$ 782,426.21		
ELIGIBLE FOR RECONCILIATION PERIOD: \$1,112,263.00			

### **Investing in Safe Schools and City Government**

HVAC for Martin School	\$ 1,122,000.00	IT remote work for city employees	\$ 175,000.00
Desk Barriers for TPS/city offices	\$ 657,136.77	HVAC for 141 Oak Street	\$ 111,895.00
HVAC for Bennett School	\$ 415,200.00	COM Unemployment	\$ 292,733.25
Storage units police/park & rec	\$ 40,000.00	Tents for COVID testing	\$ 30,000.00
Air purifiers TPD	\$ 15,860.00	Community educational initiatives	\$ 26,939.60



# ***FY2022 Preliminary Budget***

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<b>FY2021 Final Budget</b>	<b>\$ 242,889,332.81</b>
<b>FY2022 Preliminary Budget</b>	<b>\$ <u>251,117,386.77</u></b>
	<b>\$ 8,228,053.96</b>
	(3.38% increase)



# ***Revenue***

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Fiscal Year	Local Receipts	Over/Under Previous Year
FY2018	\$ 17,819,623.98	
FY2019	\$ 20,275,320.18	\$ 2,455,696.20
FY2020	\$ 19,681,202.27	\$ (594,117.91)

Fiscal Year	YTD Actual Local Receipts	Over/Under Previous Year
FY 2020	\$17,090,514.26	
FY 2021	\$14,734,101.00	\$ (2,356,413.26)



# Major Sources of Revenue

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Revenue Source	FY21 Budgeted	FY22 Budget (Estimated)
Real Estate Taxes	111,850,044.47	112,062,516.56
State Cherry Sheet	76,534,986.00	79,312,459.00
Local Receipts	15,979,500.00	16,264,500.00
Indirect Cost Payments	16,858,155.58	17,266,225.92
New Growth	2,240,633.00	1,000,000.00
Stabilization	3,443,908.85	6,165,503.29
TOTAL	226,907,227.90	232,071,204.77





# ***Department Expenses and Fixed Costs***

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Dept. Expenses	FY21 Budget	FY22 Preliminary Budget	Difference
General Govt	7,241,963.11	7,501,680.98	259,717.87
Public Safety	36,148,670.97	38,039,299.01	1,890,628.04
Education	94,599,082.00	97,222,070.00	2,622,988.00
Public Works	13,878,639.02	14,383,885.15	505,246.13
Human & Health Svs	2,863,430.75	2,874,897.63	11,466.88
Culture & Recreation	3,701,156.32	3,655,076.00	(46,080.32)
Debt & Interest	6,932,052.00	7,153,842.00	221,790.00
Miscellaneous	10,727.81	10,996.00	268.19
Employee Benefits	54,005,505.00	57,692,617.00	3,687,112.00
State/County Assessments	3,390,476.00	4,170,256.00	779,780.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>222,771,702.98</b>	<b>232,707,619.07</b>	<b>9,935,916.09</b>



# BREAKDOWN OF MAJOR INCREASED COSTS

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## PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Police:**
    - Salaries: \$451,225
    - Education/Training Supplies: \$244,616
    - Ammunition: \$354,634
    - Supplies: \$134,500
  - **Fire:**
    - Salaries : \$671,689
- (Includes retirement buyouts)

## Public Works

Oil/Road Construction: \$220,000  
Repairs/Building: \$379,304

## Education

Taunton Public Schools: \$2.39M  
Agricultural School: \$256,930

## City Government

Elections Office: \$101,927  
Procurement Office: \$164,500  
Chief Financial Officer: \$150,000  
Automation: \$ 94,609

## Employee Benefits

Pension Fund: \$1.716M  
Hosp & Group Ins: \$1.760M  
Unemployment Comp: \$100,000  
Medicare: \$150,000



# Fiscal Stewardship

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- Correcting “zero read” water meters
  - \$780,000 annually
- Completing land deal to allow Callico to expand
  - 138,000 tax revenue
- Auctioned City-owned property
  - \$740,000 sales; \$35,000 new tax revenue
- Reduced overtime for hydrant flushing
  - \$51,200
- Avoided costly replacement of Whittenton Mills pumps
  - \$130,000
- Grant funding
  - \$840,000 – OECD
  - \$6.9M – Airport
  - \$45,000 – Human Resources



# Investing in Taunton's Future

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## Department of Public Works Capital Improvement Projects

### **Streets and Sidewalks**

- \$2 million in additional funding to replace sidewalks and pave County Street
- \$2 million in additional funding for sidewalk and roadway repair

### **Reconstruction of Broadway Rt. 138 from Leonard Street to Jackson Street**

- \$12.7 million project with City allocation of \$1,079,000
- 2 phases include Leonard to Purchase Street and Purchase Street to Jackson Street

### **Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrades**

- \$26 million in sewer main repair and relining projects, sewer pump station improvements, and waste water treatment facility engineering and design work.
- \$88 million: Sewer Main Lift Pump Station project, upgrade the waste water treatment facility that was originally built in 1950, and a sewer main improvement project slated for the 2022 construction season.
- \$4 million water main repair and improvement project for summer 2021 with main installation on First St., Everett St., Silver St., W. Weir St., and Third St.



# Investing in Taunton's Future

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## Taunton Municipal Airport

- \$7.3 Million Airport Administration Building
- \$370,000 City investment
  - The airport will be a driver of economic activity and development
  - Increased tenants and aviation activity
  - New restaurant
  - New aviation businesses and programs
  - Educational programs
  - Recreation for our community and visitors
- Groundbreaking May 13
- Completion date summer 2022

## Public Safety Facility

- 2020: Created Public Safety Facility Stabilization Fund
- Dedicated 50% of all marijuana retail sales tax revenue to fund
- 5/25/2021: Requested \$1.5M transfer to Public Safety Facility Stabilization Fund





# Leading The Way For Economic and Community Development

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## Business Development

Re-established Taunton Redevelopment Authority  
Applying for Mass Development TDI fellow  
STEP UP Grant Program  
Adopted PACE Energy Program  
New Airport Administration Building

Galleria Mall property  
12 Porter Street  
125 W. Water Street  
Five marijuana retail stores

## New Businesses

Amazon Distribution Center – MSIP  
Martingetti expansion – MSIP  
Callico expansion – MSIP  
20 Constituion Drive– MSIP  
Riverhouse – Weir  
Mirror, Mirror – Whittenton

### Downtown:

Uplifted Nutrition  
Genesis Christian Bookstore  
The National  
Personnel People  
NeighborWorks Housing Solutions



# Leading The Way For Economic and Community Development

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## Housing

- \$15 million Downtown Union Block Housing Development Project
- \$22 million Housing Development Project at former TCMS
- \$12 million Housing Development Project at former St. Mary's School
- \$1.2 million Condo Development– American Legion Building

## Park & Recreation Capital Improvement Projects

- \$780,000: Hopewell Pool repair and upgrades
- \$200,000: Walker Park Renovation
- \$384,000: Memorial Park Renovation
- \$550,000: Flannery Playground
- \$290,000: Mayflower Cemetery Expansion



# Fiscal Management

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The City of Taunton continues on the path to a 21<sup>st</sup> Century government, while serving as effective stewards of municipal resources. A Chief Financial Officer and Procurement Department will provide a strong layer of fiscal accountability to the City and residents. These targeted investments ensure good stewardship of taxpayer dollars and long-term financial well-being of the city.

## Office of Procurement

- Oversees all contracts and purchasing
- Ensures compliance with local, state and federal laws
- Provides consistency, oversight, and transparency across the organization
- Purchasing power
- Savings
- Streamlines process
- Inventory management
- Takes burden off department directors
- Reduces use of outside consultants

## Chief Financial Officer

- Recommendation of Mass. Dpt. of Revenue in DLS 2013 Financial Review to create CFO position
- Ensure oversight, coordination, and accountability of all City financial activities
- Maximize efficiencies and cost-saving opportunities
- Compliance with statutory financial reporting requirements
- Financial forecasting and long-range planning for both operational and capital needs of the City
- Analyze revenues streams and citywide expenditures to deliver efficient and forward-thinking delivery of services to the residents of Taunton



# Creating a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Government

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- Updating City of Taunton Charter
- Created Elections Commission
- Reestablished Taunton Redevelopment Authority
- Requested Division of Local Services Financial Review
- Technology updates for work order process, field work, and remote work capability
- Online Permitting phased rollout
- Creating Centralized Permitting Center
- Software upgrade for Financials, Human Resources, Time Management
- Requesting Office of Procurement and Purchasing
- Requesting Chief Financial Officer position
- Applying for Transformative Development Initiative Fellow



# **THANK YOU!**

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Serving the needs of our community is a true team effort. It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that I thank all City of Taunton employees for the care and commitment they show each day in serving our community.





# **COLLABORATION**

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I want to thank Municipal Council for their continued collaboration in moving forward issues that are essential to the overall well-being of the City.